

## Indian Chieftain.

SIXTY-FOURTH YEAR IN ADVANCE.

Published Thursday by THE INDIAN CHIEFTAIN PUBLISHING COMPANY.

M. E. MILFORD, MANAGER.

VINITA, IND. TER., FEB. 10, 1891.

To correspondents: Be brief and be patient.

The Saline district payment begins next Monday. Goingsnake Monday, March 2nd.

There is reason to believe Vinita will make greater strides this season than she did last. The Chieftain will be in the lead.

It is now conceded that the present congress will take no final action in regard to the strip but it is more than likely that the next one will at its first session.

Mrs. Blythe suggests that the Cherokees engage the services after March 4th, of Senator Ingalls. He is a man of undoubted talent and in the senate has always declared that the strip belonged to the Cherokees and they were entitled to a fair compensation for it.

It is now conceded that Mayor friends are trying to make capital out of the "too-late" colored people who are drawing money, by telling them that the chief could have kept them out, had he seen fit, by appointing a man to represent the Cherokee people before the Wallace court.

The efforts of the Chieftain, Arrow and Sentinel in the reformatory line have not been without avail and we trust due credit may be bestowed by the fifty or a hundred persons comprising the Telephone's complement of subscribers. In the last issue of that paper the editor says "it cannot afford to mar its columns with dirty personalities."

The meeting of the Nationals at Tahlequah was without fruit. The political situation was discussed from their standpoint and it was determined to defer action until the first of April, when a platform will be formulated. It was reasoned that congress would adjourn March 4th and if a senate committee was coming out here and a council session was held they could act more intelligently after those events had taken place.

"Don't" BAUGH passed through town Sunday night on his way home from Washington where he had been after Maj. J. M. Bryan, who was sick. He became separated from the old gentleman at St. Louis and furnished he had gone home ahead of him. He brought word that the senatorial committee was going to offer \$10,000,000 for the strip and all concessions heretofore asked for by the Cherokees. We fear this news is almost too good to be true.

JUDGE CLINGMAN has another article in this issue which will be accorded not a little attention we venture to assert. He jumps boldly and frankly into a question which has been hinted at time and again and his manner, in contradistinction with that of the professional politician or possible officer is that of a man and a mouse. It is to such men as Judge Clingan the people must look in the hour of their depression and of tribulation for succor and that he has cast his lot with the Alliance movement is cause for congratulation of that body.

Now that the expense of running the courts in the Indian Territory is being canvassed, it is in order to invite the attention of the Attorney General to the enormous and unnecessary expense incurred by the government in taking criminals from this territory for examination before the United States Commissioners at Ft. Smith and Paris. Here is a mine that may be worked to great advantage. When offenders and numerous witnesses are carried hundreds of miles for examination when the same can be done equally well in the locality where the offense is committed, it behooves the government to inquire if this expense cannot also be saved. Let the financial investigation be extended to Ft. Smith and Paris and the sickle of reform be thrust in and about the courts of Arkansas and Texas in their relation to the Indian Territory.

### AN IMPORTANT SUBJECT.

Taxation Discussed in a Plain, Straightforward Manner.

CHELSEA, I. T., Feb. 16, '91.

Ed. Chieftain:—We come again, listen, we think we see the way out, which is no new idea to myself. We come on a matter of very great importance to the Indian, which is, the subject of taxation. No government can be run without money and that drawn from those who are beneficiaries. In this matter we will try and present it in its true light, at the same time feeling the question. My ideas are only

suggestive and original, and I cannot say why some of our people have not sprung them heretofore. It may be that the fear of political destruction or want of manhood has deterred them. If ever a people were cursed with unjust, unfair and unequal taxation it certainly must be the people of the Indian Territory. The system under which we derive taxes makes them come so easy the people do not appreciate their value and fail to take any great interest towards economizing.

When we think of a nation of less than 26,000 inhabitants requiring about \$225,000 annually to run their government machine there is a very suggestive idea that an eye to the welfare of our people was not very diligent and an apparent need of reform presents itself. Now let us figure: It is easy to count it. Each individual pays a tax of about \$9; but charging the taxes to the voting population of our nation, which is less than 4,400, each voter would pay \$51 and a fraction yearly, or for every vote cast for chief \$204. Now, fellow citizens, are we getting our money back? Think of it; it is a serious matter coming right to our fire-sides and towards our last penny. Can we get \$204 worth of protection out of the present aspirants, in case either be elected? No, if matters are not changed. You have a right to examine the gentlemen's ability, their records and the probable surroundings after election. Hold them up and sift them for honesty and integrity and see how they weigh out. We claim our present mode of taxation bears unequal hardships on the poor Indian or that class of citizens. For illustration we will take a person who owns property to the amount of \$50,000 with four in his family, and one worth \$500 with ten in his family. Considering we draw \$145,000 annually on invested fund it would be about \$6 per head. The \$50,000 person with four in his family would pay \$24 tax, while the \$500 person with ten in his family pays \$60, making the poor man pay 250 per cent. more tax than the rich or \$50,000 person. You cannot get out of it, and further, suppose this rich person has 1000 head of cattle and eight to ten farms, which is the case in many instances, and the poor man has head of cattle and one farm; does it not suggest itself that aside you lose the benefit of your grass and land but paying taxes at the rate of 250 per cent. more than the man who gets the benefit of all this for the purpose of protecting said rich men in order that he may rob you? What a gump that can't see. Study this, Indian. You cannot make it anything else. We are talking for you and in your behalf and not charging you, only good will. If I am wrong, please some good, honest person correct me, he would be considered my friend.

The way out is to cut down our present representation, turn our present schools into industrial schools; make our prison a paying institution by inventing tools and shops or lease the inmates out; punish all violators of the law; a strict accountability of all officers and citizens; equal taxation and protection and a strict observance of justice to all. This cannot be done under the present mode of raising revenue. Suppose we draw out our invested funds except a sufficient amount to keep our schools in running order, and pay per capita; the amount would pay the poor man's tax, a long way and raise a revenue by taxing our property according to its valuation. Think of the vast amount of land the Cherokees have disposed of—\$1,000,000 acres—so says the chief-owning now, including strip; about 13,000,000 acres.

The land treaty between the United States and made in 1791, just 100 years ago; in that time we have disposed of 81,000,000 acres. At this rate of reduction in sixteen years we will not have any land for homes, 94,000,000 is the total we now have and have owned. If we had retained it each of us would have 5,377 acres; the whole acreage would have made a strip around the earth nearly four miles wide, and had it sold for 50 cents per acre would have brought \$4,650,000, or at \$1.25, \$11,625,000. This amount per capita for 26,000 inhabitants would be the enormous sum of \$447,115.

Now, fellow citizens, under what system of government has all this occurred? Owning land in common and raising revenue from invested funds. Gentlemen, I want to administer on my part. Let us allot and be done with it and do it ourselves. Let us compare the United States government in few instances with ours in the last 130 years: Beginning with thirteen states; no money; whipping England, paying the expenses of said war; gained about 600 per cent. in territory; had a Mexican war; Indian wars, and a civil war at a cost of not less than \$10,000,000,000 and to-day can boast of being one of the most powerful nations on earth. Booming up and supporting a flag with more than forty-three stars or states; beginning with but a small population and to-day can boast of her 60,000,000. All this done under a system of raising revenue upon assessed values or collecting from property directly.

Let the people ponder over this coolly and view our situation without prejudice as we are making our appeals in behalf of the people and future generations. Appeal to all knowing ones to take up the march without fear if they think right. I am subject to correction. We further agree that so radical a change would naturally meet opposition, but time will win.

I am as ever, J. K. CLINGMAN.

## Farmers' Alliance, AND INDUSTRIAL UNION.

This department will be entirely under the control of the Farmers' Alliance and the proprietors decline any responsibility for its contents. The business manager is George H. Lewis, of Cheateau, and J. F. Kenworthy, of Tulsa.

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### ningham was elected as delegate to Washington.

Resolution by Bro. Kenworthy condemning new medical law as a species of class legislation detrimental to the agricultural communities. Adopted with amendment that all applicants passing a successful examination be granted license, regardless of a diploma.

Resolution by Bro. Lewis that each sub-alliance in the nation be requested to circulate a statement for signers showing number of cattle lost by each during the summer of 1887 and that same be turned over to the Washington delegate; carried.

The secretary was authorized to distribute the constitution among sub-unions of the nation and after an exemplification of the secret work by Bro. Kenworthy the meeting adjourned to the third Tuesday in August, at Ft. Gibson.

G. H. LEWIS, Pres. C. N. A.

R. A. HOSKY, Sec'y-Treas.

That "State" (9) Organization.

DELAWARE DIST., Feb. 16, '91.

The organization of the Cherokee Nation into a separate state Alliance by the delegates that met at Tahlequah last week was a blow at the very life of the order in this country, and should be repudiated promptly by "every mother's son" in the ranks of the Alliance.

We are glad to record the fact that the great body of the Alliance had nothing to do with this foolhardy movement; in fact the number of persons participating is variously stated all the way from twelve to sixteen. What few members have been connected with this shameful affair should be relegated to the rear and treated as a set of pusillanimous demagogues, as they are.

The people of this country have been forced to organize into a secret society in order to protect themselves from this very element that is now trying to destroy the Alliance. During the first year of its existence the Farmers' Alliance has shown itself capable of doing great good to the country. It has taken a prominent part in exposing the fraud and rottenness of our present political system and will continue to strike from the shoulder everything that has the least semblance of fraud.

Those who desire to ride into office on the Alliance should study the character of John James Ingalls, of Kansas, who retires on the 14th of March from the United States Senate. Here is a case of brilliant ability and more than brilliant opportunity destroyed by the absence of conviction and the contempt of principle.

Many have asked the question, "Will the Alliance sit down on this movement." My answer is, emphatically, "Yes." We can no longer tolerate the present. Did she sit down upon the mill scheme? Did she sit down upon the cattle law? Did she sit down upon the Red Hill wild cat union? We only point to these instances to show that the Alliance is in the right and can be relied upon in every emergency.

It is true that we have men occupying high places in our order that have been greatly overrated. But this is easily explained when we point to the fact that the Farmers' Alliance was in its infancy and few in numbers when these parties were placed in the positions they now occupy.

I have abounding and abiding faith in the Farmers' Alliance and the men who constitute the rank and file of the order, and when they realize and appreciate the endeavor just made by twelve or fifteen individuals to take charge of the whole Cherokee Nation and put it down into their pantaloons, I am confident what the result will be.

A PRIVATE.

"Reader" to "Subscriber."

"Subscriber," from Cow Skin prairie, takes the same ground of defense that is always taken by every body of men who have ever attempted to rob a people by legislation, to-wit: "In the interest of the poor people."

If this law had been passed in the interest of the poor people it would not have been necessary to violate the constitution in framing it. It would not have been necessary to extend the time of shipment to the 15th of April and no penalty for introducing the balance of the year. If it was the intention to benefit the poor people by opening the high schools, why were they not opened? Has the nation's credit run so low that she cannot operate two schools for three months—and her paper bearing 6 per cent?

Perhaps the poor people he speaks of are willing to take fifty cents for the use of their grass for an indefinite period, when the same privilege is worth and they can get two dollars per year for it. But the poor people on the west side of the same river are "not built that way."

"Subscriber" will have hard work to make us believe that the people of his side of the river would like to see their brethren over the way completely ruined by the destruction of their small herds of cattle which in many instances is all they have. We certainly would not wish them so great a calamity, even if the revenue was doubled.

If it was put to a vote to-day in Coosawcooswee district the people would willingly submit to a tax that would cover the whole amount of the estimated revenue to be derived from the introduction of Texas cattle, rather than take the chances of sustaining the losses that are sure to follow. We fear it just that bad, Bro. "Subscriber."

READER.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

We are authorized to announce Mr. Gideon Morgan, as a candidate on the independent ticket for Judge of the Northern Judicial Circuit.

### Solid Advice to the Granger.

"Don't be a clam." Don't allow any set of men to stuff you on allotment. Don't you believe that your only salvation is in dividing up the country. Don't be suddenly converted to a doctrine you know nothing of. Better demand that the set of men who have got you in this fix step down and out and let you run it awhile. You know what is in your mind and you will only depend on yourself and consult one another.

Quit voting for men because they are "kin" to you; they should have better recommendations than that. Give all the political parties the bounce and vote as you please after you have perfected your plans with your brethren who are in the same box. The greatest benefit the Alliance confers upon her membership is the cure of political hero-worship and if you are not cured you had better attend more regularly and set close to the teacher.

When the old politician has a foothold in your mind you must love, but not look upon him as a superior being. You have your axe to grind; let him turn the grindstone for you awhile "and ye be a happy granger."

Cow Creek Union No. 127, has passed a resolution denouncing the cow law and have forwarded a copy to this office.

A. H. Nuttall, president of the Territorial Union, writes that he has written the Alliance president of Arkansas demanding all organizations' consent that have been issued to parties in this territory, be called in. He has also written Mr. F. Howard to cease organizing as the Indian Territory is operating under an independent charter granted by the National Alliance.

Ho, "pumpkin roller," have you been investigating the new medical law and if you have, have you found anything in it that is of a special benefit to the average farmer? Or, have you found in it a scheme to place all your sick or afflicted at the mercy of a few town doctors who have endeavored to kill off competition by law where they failed to hold their own upon the merits? Further, did you hear of any farmers sending in petitions to have said law passed?

James Martin and other citizens residing in the vicinity of Rome, who have heretofore suffered severe losses to their native herds by reason of the introduction of Texas cattle, desire to notify every stockman interested in Texas cattle that they claim the Salt and Big Creek range as their own, having used it for years. Further, that they have enough cattle of their own to fully stock said range and intend placing upon the range at the rising of grass a man to line ride and hold their cattle within reasonable bounds.

Office of A. H. Nuttall, President of the Industrial Union, Caddo, I. T. To all whom it may concern: All county secretaries are hereby ordered to send in their Territorial and National dues to D. S. Ivins, territorial secretary-treasurer; also all sub-unions not attached to any county union are required to send their Territorial and National dues to D. S. Ivins, Caddo, I. T., immediately.

A. H. NUTTALL, Pres. T. I. U. I. T.

Mayes answers the Alliance petition in a very long document. Condensed it reads about like this: To the Alliance he says: "You have my sympathy." To the cowmen he says: "You stick to me and I'll stick to you." For state-craft this document has never been equalled except in his reasons for selling the "lib bill" and paying it all as a "payment of love." The Alliance receives all this friendly advice and hopes the gentleman will be able to stand in with both sides at issue. UNION.

### BUSINESS LOCALS.

Always buy the Oats wagon.

Cooking stoves complete at the Star Store.

Red oats for seed; 400 bushels for sale by Dr. Frazee.

Garden seed from three reliable houses at the Star Store.

The "Arkansas Traveler" is the very best wagon made.

A new supply of five and ten cent counter goods just received at the Star Store.

Take that plow straight to Dennis Hicks' blacksmith shop and have it fixed up before the rush begins to come.

Flax Seed to Sell for Cash.

I have several hundred bushels of flax seed to sell for cash; don't lose it.

J. J. FARMER, 24-26 Baxter Spring, Kas.

Complete Line of Jewelry.

Also a full line of Hirschberg's celebrated "Diamond" spectacles and eye glasses at W. G. Patton & Co's. See advertisement.

I am now selling painted barbed wire for \$2.25. All other wire at proportionately low prices. Big supply always on hand.

J. J. FARMER, 24-26 Baxter Spring, Kas.

When in Chetopa, Kansas, stop at the National Hotel, A. M. Steele, proprietor, if you want first-class accommodations. Rates \$2.00 per day.

Those having fat cattle, hogs, sheep and all kinds of game can get the highest cash prices by calling on or writing to Faulkenstein & Co., at Chetopa, Kas.

Superior saddles sold surprisingly low for gentlemen.

I am agent for "Superior" "Charcoal Oak," "Acorn" and many other first-class wood and coal stoves. Our prices are always the lowest and everything we sell the very best. J. J. FRIDLEY, 9-12 1/2 Baxter Springs, Kas.

### Nelly Bly got around the world pretty lively, but Chestham's Tasteless Chili Tonic will go to still better places.